(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total number of seats in medical colleges and dental colleges in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per provisions of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act,1993 and the Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993 and the Regulations framed thereunder, the Central Government permission is granted for starting of a Medical/ Dental College for one year. This permission is renewed on yearly basis after verification of the achievements of annual targets in respect of creation of infrastructure facilities. In case of failure of the college authorities to meet the annual target of development of infrastructure, the annual renewal of permission is not granted. The college accordingly cannot admit students unless they rectify the deficiencies to the satisfaction of the Professional Councils and the Government of India. Accordingly, permission for admission of students during 2002-2003 has not so far been renewed in respect of 27 medical and 36 dental colleges. Further, this process of renewal of permission is a continuous one and the Government renews the permission as and when the recommendations of the Professional Councils are received.

(c) As on date 192 medical and 151 dental colleges are functioning in the country. The annual intake capacity of these colleges is approximately 21, 350 and 9,580 respectively.

Universal Immunization Programme for Hepatitis-B

1962. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently introduced a Universal Immunization Programme for Hepatitis-B Vaccine for liver ailments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have implemented this programme in all States/UTs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Government have initiated a pilot project for introducing Hepatitis-B vaccine in the Universal Immunization Programme. Since this is a pilot activity, the programme will initially be limited to slums of 15 cities during 2002-2003 and in 32 districts in 2003-2004. The names of cities and districts are given in Statement.

Statement

Names of cities and districts where Universal Immunization Programme for Hepatitis-B have been launched

Sl. No.	Name of Cities
1	Greater Mumbai
2	Kolkata
3	Chennai
4	Delhi
5	Hyderabad
6	Bangalore
7	Ahmedabad
8	Kanpur
9	Pune
10	Lucknow
11	Vadodara
12	Jaipur
13	Indore
14	Patna
15	Bhopal

Sl. No.	State		Name of Districts
1	Tamil Nadu	1	Madurai
		2	Nilgiri
		3	Virudhnagar
		4	Ramanathapuram
2.	Kerala	5	Alapuzzha
		6	Ernakulum
		7	Pathamithan
3	Karnataka	8	Kodagu (Kurg)
		9	Shimoga
		10	Mysore
4	A.P.	11	Chittor
		12	Vijzzyanagar
5	Goa	13	Goa
6	Maharashtra	14	Ratnagiri
		15	Chandrapur
		16	Satara
7	M.P.	17	Balaghat
8	Orissa	18	Sundergarh
9	Punjab	19	Ropar
		20	Hoshiarpur
10	Haryana	21	Panchkula
		22	Ambala
11	H.P.	23	Hamirpur
		24	Solan
12	Uttaranchal	25	Nainital
13	Pondicherry	26	Pondicherry
14	Lakshadweep	27	Lakshadweep
15	Assam	28	Jorhat
		29	Sibsagar
16	J & K	30	Rajouri
		31	Udhampur
17	Gujarat	32	Surat